



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

12 JULY 2017

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Kern County—Armed Men Still on Loose after Robbing Trail Rescuers

(U) Kern County search and rescue volunteers ran into two men armed with rifles during a rescue operation over the weekend, robbing them of their radios and sending them back where they came from, leaving an ailing hiker they came to rescue stranded for several more hours. A pair of rescuers turned down the wrong trail in the remote Piute mountains when they made contact with the armed men. Senior Deputy Tommy Robins said the gunmen may have been guarding an illegal marijuana plantation, but he wasn't aware if one had been found in the area. The armed robbers remained at large yesterday as the investigation continued.

SOURCE: 11 July 2017, [Associated Press](#)

(U) La Crescenta—Fifteen Pounds of Marijuana Discovered Left on Side of 210 Freeway

(U) Fifteen pounds of marijuana were found in plastic bags on the side of a freeway in La Crescenta during a litter cleanup this weekend, authorities said. Two organizations were doing their monthly sweep along the 210 Freeway at La Crescenta Avenue on 8 July when City Councilman Mike Classens came across one bag. Classens took the bag over to another part of the cleanup area to show a friend when he noticed a second large bag about 20 feet away, also filled with marijuana. Los Angeles County sheriff's deputies were eventually called in and took custody of the bags.

SOURCE: 11 July 2017, [Los Angeles Times](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) District of Columbia—US to Crack Down on Opioid Treatment Programs

(U) Washington—Attorney General Jeff Sessions is poised to announce a major law enforcement action this week targeting health-care fraud, focusing on opioid treatment programs exploiting Obamacare insurance plans. In what is described as a nationwide sweep with hundreds of arrests being carried out across the US, the Justice Department is cracking down on fraudulent claims made to some of the nation's biggest insurers, said a source. Arrests will reportedly be carried out in cities including Miami, Chicago, Detroit and Los Angeles.

SOURCE: 12 July 2017, [Bloomberg](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Iraq—ISIS Fighters Feigning Surrender in Order to Attempt Suicide Attacks

(U) Mosul—In a "desperate ploy," ISIS fighters in Mosul attempted to feign surrender to Iraqi Security Forces on 10 July in order to get close enough to conduct a mass suicide attack, the top US commander in Iraq said yesterday. The initial request by an ISIS commander to surrender a large group of fighters was denied by the Iraqi Security Forces, and later that afternoon, following the initial exchange, the Iraqi Security Forces saw a wave of suicide attacks. The incident came a day after Iraqi Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi declared victory in Mosul over ISIS, roughly three years after the group took control of the city.

SOURCE: 11 July 2017, [ABC News](#)

(U) Qatar—US and Qatar Sign Counter-Terrorism Deal

(U) Doha—US Secretary of State Rex Tillerson and Qatari Foreign Minister Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al-Thani announced a deal yesterday targeting extremist financing. "The memorandum lays out a series of steps the two countries will take over the coming months and years to interrupt and disable terror financing flows and intensify counter-terrorism activities globally," Tillerson said at a joint press conference. Qatar was the first Arab state to respond to US President Trump's call at a summit in Riyadh earlier this year "to stop the funding of terrorism"—suggesting such deals could be signed with the other Arab states as a step toward ending the crisis.

SOURCE: 11 July 2017, [AFP](#)

(U) Syria—US-Backed Syrian Forces Capture ISIS-Held Town

(U) Al-Ukayrshi—A US-backed, Kurdish-led militia yesterday drove ISIS militants from a northern Syrian town where the extremists had once run a training camp named for Osama Bin Laden. The Syrian Democratic Forces captured al-Ukayrshi, nine miles southeast of ISIS's de facto capital, Raqqa, and once home to a sprawling jihadi military installation, said a SDF spokesman. The capture of the town is the latest as the SDF advances towards Raqqa on both sides of the Euphrates River Valley with US air and ground support.

SOURCE: 11 July 2017, [Associated Press](#)

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) Arizona—Smugglers Abandon Woman Found Dangling From Border Fence

(U) Nogales—A Mexican woman attempting to enter the United States was found dangling from a border fence in Arizona over the weekend after smugglers left her hanging, officials said. US Customs and Border Protection said agents saw two smugglers trying to lower the woman, 37, from the border fence in Nogales using a harness and rope. The smugglers abandoned the woman, however, when they saw the agents, leaving her hanging about 15 feet above the ground. Nogales Fire Department arrived at the scene and brought the woman to the ground. She was not injured and was processed for immigration violations.

SOURCE: 11 July 2017, [Fox News](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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